

Homeland Security Update

"Ensure a safe and secure Washington for the 21st Century"



MG Timothy J. Lowenberg

The Washington State Homeland Security Advisor's Message

As the Governor's Homeland Security Advisor I am pleased to provide this Homeland Security Update. An initiative of our collective statewide team – TEAM Washington this demonstrates another way we are increasing our communication and collaboration throughout the state. We have strengthened our partnerships between the public and private sectors, tribal nations, federal partners and our many associations. By working together and following our strategic plan we will assure our preparedness for contingencies and will fulfill our commitment and responsibility to each other as citizens of this great State and the Nation.

<u>Washington State Committee on Terrorism (COT) Conducts</u> <u>Strategic Planning and Changes Name to the Washington State</u> <u>Committee on Homeland Security (CHS)</u>

The committee conducted an intensive two day strategic planning session in Jan 04 as part of the Washington State effort to implement our new Washington Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan. As part of the committee's continued growth and contributions to the state a number of discussions were held and decisions made to align the committee with the strategic plan.

The committee was renamed the Committee on Homeland Security to reflect the entire body of work and scope the committee focuses on. Within the strategic planning workshop revisions to the charter were made to include revisions to the purpose, objectives, written formal process for membership and a member job description:

Purpose:

Provide advice and recommendations on statewide Homeland Security policy and plans.

Objectives:

To serve as the Emergency Management Council's (EMC) working group for assignments related to terrorism:

1. Facilitate the implementation and maintenance of the Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan.

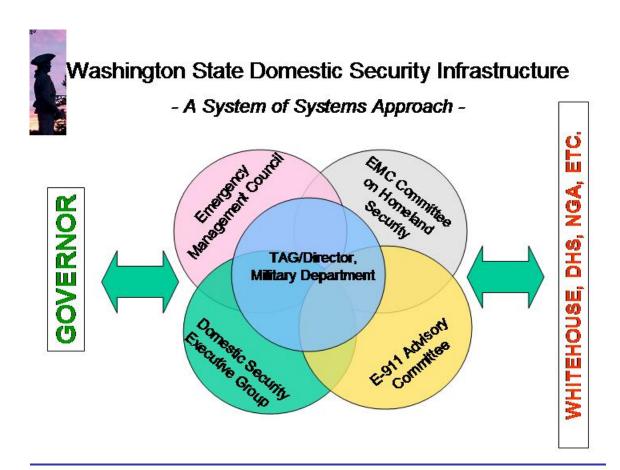
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- 2. Recommend policy to improve and enhance statewide preparedness.
- 3. Provide a forum for coordination and exchange of information.
- 4. Recommend, monitor and where appropriate develop systems and processes to accomplish Homeland Security priorities.
- 5. Serve as a principle forum for synchronization of all statewide Homeland Security activities.

The committee workshop also accomplished a significant amount of work articulating the structure and purpose for work groups, job descriptions, guiding principles, role clarifications, linking the committee objectives to the strategic plan objectives, discussing the value added the committee brings to homeland security efforts, and next steps. Recommendations have been made to the Emergency Management Council to re-charter the committee based on these recommendations.

The Washington State domestic infrastructure is a statewide organization "systems of systems" approach to "Ensure a safe and secure Washington for the 21st Century."

For more information please contact: Nancy Bickford, Homeland Security (HLS) Strategic Planner, (253) 512-7712, Nancy.Bickford@mil.wa.gov.





Washington Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan

Governor Gary Locke announced the completion of our new Statewide Homeland Security Strategic Plan in a press conference on Jan. 9, 2004. Efforts in the strategic planning area have continued at a fast pace to select and approve coordinating leads for the (30) statewide objectives and (76) implementation strategies. Coordinating leads include (17) state agencies and statewide associations and commissions. Confirmed by both the Committee on Homeland Security and Emergency Management Council the Domestic Security Executive Group endorsed the nominations on Feb. 16th.

The next step in the strategic planning process is to develop action plans for our statewide strategies. An on-line action plan template has been designed to assist coordinating leads. Action plans need to be submitted to the Washington Military Department by Aug 1, 2004. From this point the plans will be reviewed and prioritized in coordination with the Committee on Homeland Security, EMC and Domestic Security Executive Group (DSEG) and high priority initiatives will be asked to develop business plans that allow us to compete further for funding opportunities.

A balanced scorecard – "report card" has been developed to report and track progress on strategies and objectives.

The State Homeland Security Strategy (SHSS) is an automated on-line format for submissions of portions of the full strategic plan and includes readiness (non-public releasable) statistics. The Washington State Homeland Security Strategy was cited by the Office of Domestic Preparedness (ODP) as one of the best received. Conditionally approved, pending minor edits, this strategy forms the basis of our future statewide efforts to build capability and capacity.

For more information please contact: Nancy Bickford, HLS Strategic Planner, (253) 512-7712, Nancy.Bickford@mil.wa.gov.

Homeland Security Grants and Resources



Within the past 12 months, the state of Washington received the following homeland security grants:

FFY03 State Homeland Security Grant Program – Part I: \$11,294,000 FFY03 State Homeland Security Grant Program – Part II: \$29,917,000

These grants are designed to provide resources for states and local communities to enhance first responder preparedness and to mitigate the costs of enhanced security at critical infrastructure facilities during periods of heightened threat. The four main categories for grant expenditures include: equipment, exercise, training and planning/administration.

Local funds under the FFY03 grants were, in most cases, sub-granted to the nine regional homeland security coordination districts, known as Homeland Security Regions. Each region has developed an internal, multi-jurisdictional process to allocate funds to individual cities, counties, tribes and special purpose districts. Funds were also retained at the state level to increase state agency capabilities and capacities.

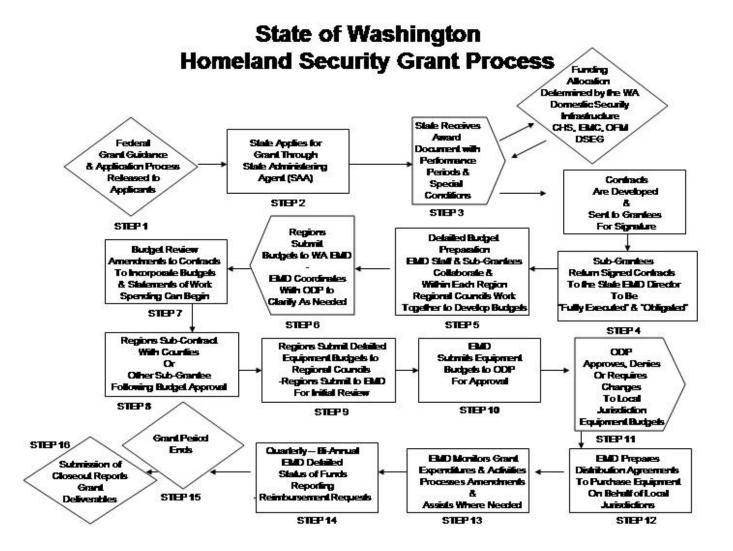
The nine Homeland Security Regions are currently preparing detailed spending plans and are beginning to request reimbursement for activities that have been performed under these grants. These grants have 24 month performance periods, which extend the activities through March and April of 2005.

In addition, the state of Washington recently applied for **FFY04 Homeland Security funding**, totaling \$44,015,000. This grant package will include:

State Homeland Security Program (\$33,408,000): Equipment, training, exercise and planning activities for emergency responders.

Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program (\$9,913,000): Equipment, training, exercise, planning, information sharing and intelligence gathering activities for law enforcement entities (local and state.)

Citizen Corps Program (\$694,000): Continue efforts to promote volunteer emergency response capabilities and public education.



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Urban Area Strategic Initiative (UASI):

In June of 2003 an application was submitted for the Urban Area Security Initiative – I (UASI) grant of \$11,201,000 by the City of Seattle, one of seven urban areas within the United States selected to receive funding under UASI grant program I for their unique equipment, training, planning and exercise needs as a high threat urban area.

In July 2003, the state of Washington submitted an application for the UASI II grant of \$18,186,668. The City of Seattle and King County were designated core city and county, and Pierce and Snohomish counties as contiguous jurisdictions for the UASI II grant. The four jurisdictions have been working together to develop an Urban Area Homeland Security Strategy and develop spending plans for these funds. This grant has a 24 month performance period extending through July 2005.

The state of Washington submitted an application in December of 2003 for the FFY04 UASI Grant of \$17,213,842 for the City of Seattle and King County and the contiguous jurisdictions of Pierce and Snohomish counties, to build upon the activities and strategy in the FFY03 UASI II grant. The FFY04 UASI grant includes Mass Transit funding for the Sounder Transit. This grant has not yet been awarded to the state of Washington.

For more information please contact: Arel Solie, EMD Program Manager, (253) 512-7468, a.solie@emd.wa.gov.

Washington State Regional Training Exercises

The State Homeland Security Regions are getting into full swing with planning and conducting exercises. Within the next few months there will be several exercises conducted. Exercises for the February and March 2004 are as follows:

Region 1 – Seminar, March Region 2 – Tabletop, March Region 3 – Tabletop, March Region 5 – Tabletop, March 18 Region 6 – Workshop Region 8 – Tabletop, March 24

For more information please contact: Gerald Jenson, EMD Training Coordinator, (253) 512-7045, g.jenson@emd.wa.gov.

Washington State Department of Transportation Conducts Vulnerability Assessments

As part of the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

Vulnerability Assessment of our critical Assets, the Washington State Department of

Transportation had a nationwide group of Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) bridge experts
and an Army Corp of Engineers (COE) blast effects expert field review ten of our most vulnerable
assets during the week of December 15, 2003. This group first reviewed the WSDOT draft
vulnerability assessment, and then field reviewed selected assets. Representatives from
Washington State Patrol (WSP), the Washington National Guard and Seattle Police participated
in the field reviews along with WSDOT bridge experts, field operational and emergency
management staff. On December 19, 2003 the panel presented their preliminary findings to a

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selected group. The final report from the FHWA/Army COE team will be used to supplement WSDOT's vulnerability analysis and to assist the WSDOT obtain funding to lessen the risk of terrorist attack to our critical assets. The FHWA group was very impressed with the work the WSDOT has done on our vulnerability assessment. In fact, they have asked to use the Washington State Department of Transportation assessment plan (removing all references to WSDOT critical assets) as a national model. FHWA would like to share the methodology and systematic approach that the DOT used in developing the Washington State assessment with other states.

For more information please contact: Terry Simmonds, Washington State Department of Transportation, (360) 705-7857, simmont@wsdot.wa.gov.

Washington State Emergency Management Council



Task Force Drafts Information Collection Tool

The EMC Task Force on Local Programs has completed the first draft of an information collection instrument that will be used to gather information from county, city and tribal programs in Washington State about their emergency management programs.

We are attempting to look at emergency management as a statewide system. While the survey will ask questions about local emergency management programs, the results will be used to paint a picture of the strength and health of the emergency management system in Washington State.

If your county, city, or tribe is interested in testing the information collection instrument, and providing valuable feedback, please contact Nicole Simpkinson, Project Director, by responding to this email.

This spring, the Task Force will be visiting cities, counties and tribes to facilitate discussions on the current state of local emergency management, and to introduce the data collection instrument. You can view our travel schedule at site visits. The instrument will be available both online and in hard copy.

If you have questions regarding the Task Force on Local Programs, please visit our website at www.EMCTaskforce.org or telephone one of our team members listed below. We recently have added several new features to our website, including:

- Our work plan...indicates our work tasks scheduled and in progress.
- Our recent activities...highlights our recent accomplishments as well as upcoming activities.
- Site visit calendar...lets you know when we will be visiting a community near you.
- Conference calendar...identifies upcoming conferences at which we will be participating.
- Grants...summarizes recent grant announcements.

And, of course, we are always adding to our news updates, monthly meeting agendas, and collection of emergency management resources.

For more information please contact:

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Task Force on Local Programs	Task Force on Local Programs
Washington State Association of Counties	Association of Washington Cities
(360) 753-1886; (360) 753-2842 (fax)	(360) 753-4137/(800) 562-8981
NSimpkinson@wacounties.org	sharonf@awcnet.org
Andy Clarke, Project Analyst Task Force on Local Programs Association of Washington Cities (360) 753-4137/(800) 562-8981 andyc@awcnet.org	

Citizen Council Corps Washington Commission for National and Community Service

The Washington Commission for National and Community Service (WCNCS) has been designated by the Governor to be the Citizen Corps Council and administer Citizen Corps program initiatives throughout the state.

The State Council supports increased statewide preparedness through Citizen Corps initiatives by encouraging local communities to participate in the programs under Citizen Corps, and encourage service and volunteerism as a way to engage the public to be better prepared to respond to all types of emergencies and disasters.

Our many federal partners have contributed a great deal to our Washington State citizen volunteer efforts. Funding and partnership with Department of Homeland Security (DHS)/Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Region X has provided conferences, training and regional meetings to coordinate issues/initiatives. An affiliation with the Corporation for National & Community Service has encouraged and supported the placement of grants to local agencies to support Homeland Security Initiatives and local programs.

Within the state the WCNCS staff has traveled extensively to provide technical assistance, program guidance and training to assist local programs within our borders and other states' councils.

The combined effort of local, state and federal efforts has achieved many important outcomes this year to include:

- Developed on-going liability and volunteer issues working group.
- Supported communities for applications to the Medical Reserve Corps Grant program.
- Washington State achieved the National goal of 50% population coverage by Citizen Corps Councils, one of (11) states nationwide.
- Supported innovative and tribal grants under both Citizen Corps and (Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) initiatives. Many communities will benefit from lessons learned and programs developed through innovative and tribal grants.

- Worked closely with State and Federal partners to include Citizen Corps initiatives into the entire Homeland Security effort both at the state and local level. Inclusion of Citizen Corps into the State's Homeland Security Strategy.
- Linked National Service programs with Regional approach by placing Volunteers In Service to America (VISTAs) in each Region to support the Region and develop Citizen Corps programs.
- Provided technical and grant support to locals, in the development or enhancement of their Citizen Corps programs and initiatives.

For more information please contact: Karin Frinnel-Hanrahan, Office of Financial Management, Washington Commission on National and Community Service, (360) 725-5290.



Northwest Warning, Alert and Response Network

The Northwest Warning, Alert, and Response Network (NW-WARN) was developed in cooperation by the Seattle Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), the FEMA Region 10, King County Emergency Management, and the Pacific Northwest Economic Region. NW-WARN is a communications network that is sponsored by the Department of

Homeland Security and managed by the FBI and FEMA. Consisting of a network internet connectivity the basic objective is to provide timely warnings and alerts on significant risks, event, threats and issues to government entities, and both public and private critical infrastructures.

The NW-WARN will have two levels of access. A public accessible website will provide preparedness and general instructions. A password protected member's only access will provide pre-identified, pre-qualified entities through sector gatekeepers automated warnings, alerts and notifications based on their critical infrastructure sector. The critical infrastructure sectors are the (13) sectors specified in the National Strategy on Homeland Security to include: (Agriculture & Food, Water, Public Health, Emergency Services, Law Enforcement, Government Facilities/Agencies, Defense Industrial Base, Information and Telecommunications, Energy, Transportation, Banking and Finance, Chemical Industry & Hazardous Materials, Postal & Shipping and Icons).

Members for a company/agency are either key managers or subject matter experts/decision makers who have a role and normally respond to emergency situations for their company or agency. A key qualification is their individual experience and ability to understand how different kinds of information and warnings might impact all the parts of their company/agency and the services and functions it provides within a community. These individuals understand their companies' sector issues, challenges, needs and know the interdependencies that it has with other public or private sectors. Members are those that are generally on-call for emergencies and have the contact information for their organizations. These individuals have the ability to make decisions, commit resources and full capability to safeguard the confidentiality of the information being transmitted.

Sector gatekeepers represent each sector and have the further responsibilities for decision making on routing information and the maintenance of notification system. Based on their experience they have good situational network of the constituency they represent and credibility within their profession. Gatekeepers participate in network meetings, assemble advisory groups for their sectors, screen potential members, maintain contact lists, assist with training and communicate to related sectors not represented by gatekeepers.

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For more information please contact: Joe Huden, Special Assistant to the Director, Washington Military Department, (253) 512-8108, Joe.Huden@mil.wa.gov



In the interests of public safety, the mission of the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) is to pursue and promote statewide interoperability policies and standards, which will ensure interoperable emergency communications.

The Washington State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) is a permanent sub-committee of the Information Services (ISB), and was formed by legislation enacted on July 1, 2003. The intent of the legislature was to have state public safety agencies' considerable investment in radio communications facilities, and spectrum licensed to the state be managed to ensure economic efficiencies by coordinated planning, development and management. This coordination is essential for disaster preparedness, emergency management, and public safety. Coordination will also result in more cost-effective use of the state's resources and will improve government services at all levels.

The SIEC was created and codified in July 2003 in part to:

- Develop policies for technical standards for state wireless radio communications systems.
- Coordinate and manage the licensing and use of state-designed and statelicensed radio frequencies.
- Serve as point of contact for the state and Federal Communications
 Commission on matters relating to allocations, use and licensing of radio
 spectrums.
- Seek support, including possible federal funding or other funding, for statesponsored wireless communications systems.
- Develop recommendations for legislation that may be required to promote interoperability of state wireless communications systems.
- Foster cooperation and coordination among public safety and emergency response organizations.
- Work with wireless communications groups and associations to ensure interoperability among all public safety emergency response wireless communications systems.

In support of these goals the SIEC has accomplished the inventory of all state operated public safety communications listed in the first bullet and is further accomplishing several major interoperability projects this year to include inventories and plan development listed below.

- By December 31, 2003, the SIEC must complete an inventory of all stateoperated public safety communications systems. By this date, the SIEC must report to the ISB and to the appropriate state legislative committees the results of such a survey.
- By March 31, 2004, the SIEC must complete an interim statewide public safety communications plan. This plan must be submitted to the ISB and sent to the appropriate state Legislative committees.

- By July 31, 2004, the SIEC must complete an inventory of all public safety communications systems within the State of Washington. This survey must be submitted to the ISB before being sent to the state legislature.
- By December 31, 2004 the SIEC must complete a final statewide public safety communications plan.

Currently the SIEC is working on the interim statewide public safety communications plan, is completing text of the local government survey and is working on a partnership with the Regional Homeland Security Coordinating Districts to assist with the survey, strategic plan and roll out of interoperable communications.

For more information please contact: Dennis Hausman, Washington Department of Information Services, (360) 902-3463, DennisH@dis.wa.gov or visit the SIEC Web site at http://isb.wa.gov/siec.



<u>State Homeland Security Information E-Mail</u> Distribution List

The Washington Military Department distributes daily the Homeland Security information provided to the Washington Homeland Security Advisor from a variety of sources to include the Department of Homeland Security. If you would like to join this distribution list please e-mail Joe Huden, Special Assistant to the Director of the Washington Military Department at: Joe. <u>Huden@mil.wa.gov</u> or call (253) 512-8108.

For comments, recommendations or contributions to this newsletter please contact: Nancy Bickford, WA Military Department, HLS Strategic Planner, (253) 512-7712, Nancy.Bickford@mil.wa.gov. Copies of this newsletter are available on the Military Department Emergency Management Division website at http://emd.wa.gov and click on the Homeland Security button.

Homeland Security publications and newsletters are available on the Washington State Emergency Management website at: http://emd.wa.gov/site-general/wahsas/wa-hsas-idx.htm

Acronyms Used in This Newsletter

CERT Community Emergency Response Teams

CHS Committee on Homeland Security (Washington State)

COE Corps of Engineers

COT Committee on Terrorism (Washington State)

DHS Department of Homeland Security (Federal)

Acronyms Used in This Newsletter

DIS Department of Information Services (Washington State)

DSEG Domestic Security Executive Group (Washington State)

EMC Emergency Management Council (Washington State)

EMD Emergency Management Division (Washington State Military Department)

FBI Federal Bureau of Investigation

FEMA Federal Emergency Management Agency

FHWA Federal Highway Administration

HLS Homeland Security

NGA National Governor's Association

NW-WARN Northwest Warning, Alert & Response Network

ODP Office of Domestic Preparedness (Federal)

OFM Office of Financial Management (Washington State)

SAA State Administering Agent

SHSS State Homeland Security Strategy

SIEC State Interoperability Executive Committee

TAG The Adjutant General

UASI Urban Area Security Initiative

VISTA Volunteers in Service to America

WCNCS Washington Commission on National and Community Service

WSDOT Washington State Department of Transportation

WSP Washington State Patrol